# Minutes of the
# **Meeting of the Executive Committee**
# of the
# World Council of Churches

**26 – 27 January 2001**

**Meeting held at the**

**Bonhoeffer Haus, Berlin, Germany**

These minutes have no official status until received, amended as necessary and approved by the Executive Committee at its next meeting. The official proceedings of the Executive Committee consist of a documented record of decisions taken by the Committee along with the texts of documents acted upon. The introductions to agenda items and summaries of presentations and discussions are prepared by the minute-taker for background information only, and should not be cited as part of the official proceedings of the meeting nor as such attributed to the speakers' names.

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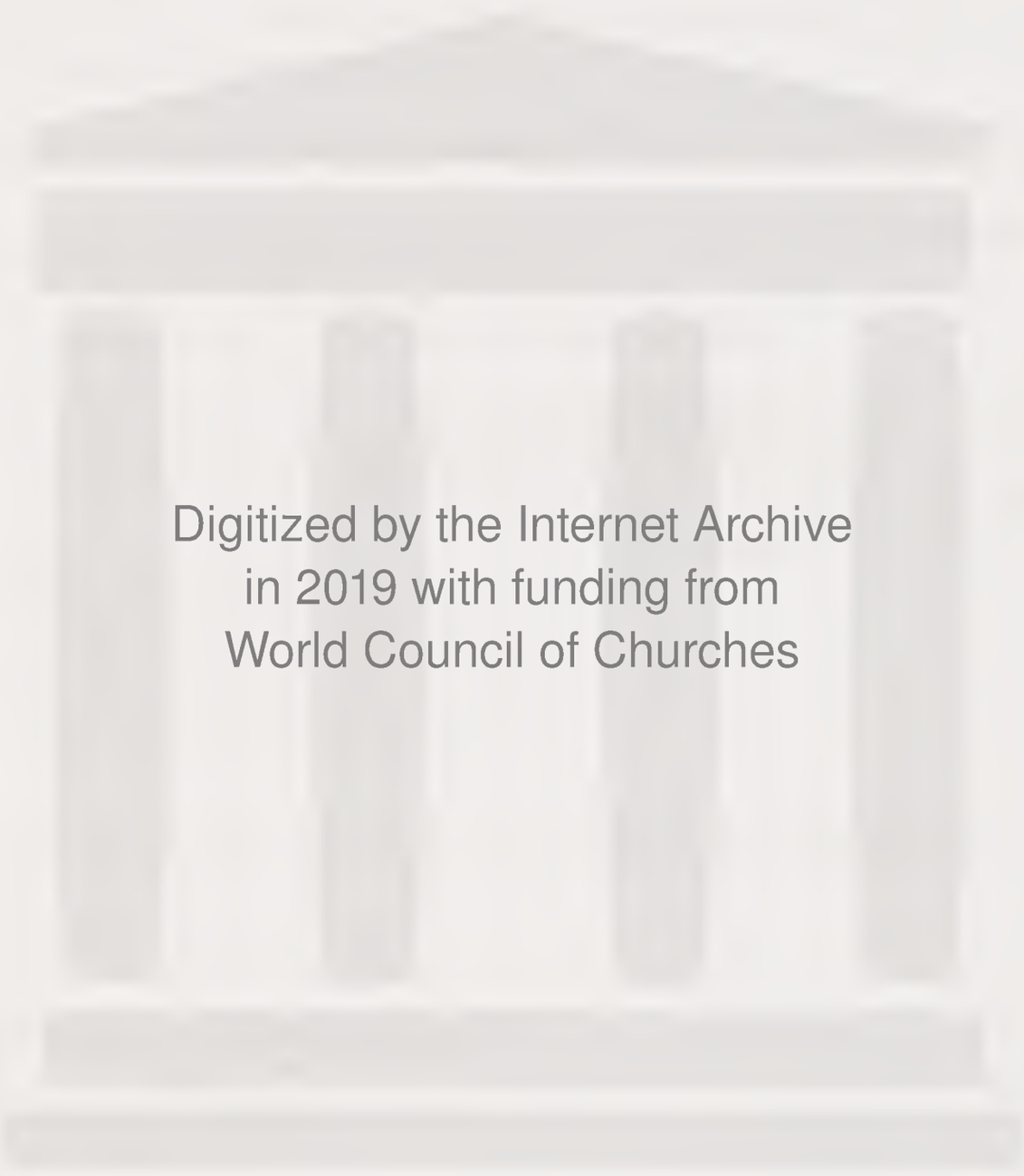

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**World Council of Churches**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Berlin, 26-27 January 2001

# 1. OPENING ACTIONS

## 1.1 Worship

Morning worship was led by members of the Executive Committee.

## 1.2 Call to Order and Welcome

The Moderator, His Holiness Aram I, called the meeting to order at 9.10 hours on Friday, January 26, 2001. He welcomed all participants.

## 1.3 Roll Call

The General Secretary called the roll of members present and noted apologies from Rev. Yadessa Daba, Rev. Inamar De Souza, Mr. Moon Kyu Kang, and H.H. Mar Ignatius Zakka I Iwas. As this meeting was taking place immediately prior to the Central Committee, six Presidents were present.

## 1.4 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting were approved with the following addition to 19.9 Extension of the Contract of the General Secretary: The Executive Committee discussed the proposal by the Officers to delay for one year the process for the election of a new General Secretary and to extend the contract of Dr. Raiser for one year. It was agreed that such a delay would allow the Executive Committee to develop criteria both for membership of the Search Committee and for the election of the new General Secretary before August 2002 when the Search Committee will be appointed.

Regarding the minutes of future meetings it was pointed out that it would be desirable to have the discussion of the various issues recorded more extensively.

### 1.5 Adoption of Agenda and Time-Table

The General Secretary introduced the proposed Agenda and time-table which were adopted with some additions.

## 2. REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

### 2.1 General Overview

The General Secretary reported that the period since the last meeting of the Executive Committee in September has been a very busy one. The potential of the new profile of the WCC can already be seen, but the limitation of human and financial resources are also painfully felt. The process of evaluation of working methods, relationships, internal communication and information technology has begun. The results will serve as a basis for readjustment of these processes during 2001.

Staff is struggling to cope with the workload, co-ordinating activities and controlling expenditures. The review of the human resources policy and the remuneration system is continuing and should reach a conclusion by autumn 2001. A scheme for staff development is being worked out with the objective of increasing the quality of work. A review of information technology policy and strategy has been undertaken and will lead to new initiatives regarding knowledge management. The new Income Monitoring and Development Manager has begun to develop a strategy for income development, and the membership contribution campaign is also under way. Mr. R.L. Naylor, consultant, had reviewed the role descriptions for the vacant positions of Senior Editor and Senior Web Editor within the Communication Cluster.

### 2.2 Special Events

The second plenary meeting of the Special Commission was held in Cairo in October 2000. It was a successful meeting, and there is now a clear agenda. A final report is expected for the meeting of the Central Committee in 2002. An interim report will be submitted to the Central Committee in Potsdam.

The founding meeting of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance took place in Geneva in December 2000. It brings together in a unique group Regional Ecumenical

Organisations and fellowships, church agencies, particularly in the North, specialised networks in the South, Christian World Communions, and Roman Catholic organisations. It is a new instrument of ecumenical co-operation which widens the network of ecumenical partners. It will be a test case to explore whether the WCC is in a position to play a distinct role as facilitator of collaboration between partners in the north and the south.

The first meeting of a small Reference Group on Human Sexuality took place in November 2000. It has been formed to advise the WCC on ways to respond to the respective recommendations of the Harare Assembly.

### 2.3 Visits to Member Churches

Dr. Raiser reported on his visit to Nigeria in October 2000, noting especially the tensions between Christians and Muslims and the struggle of the Ogoni people. He also participated in two Synod meetings in Germany which focused on contemporary issues and ecumenism. He had made a two-day visit to Paris for lectures with Roman Catholic partners in the context of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and had also met with representatives of the French Protestant Federation.

### 2.4 Present Meeting

The purpose of the present Executive Committee meeting is essentially to prepare for the Central Committee meeting and to deal with certain issues, e.g. staffing, nominations, and legal matters regarding ACT and ENI. Advice is also needed on public issues, especially the situation in Israel and Palestine, and on the financial situation.

Referring to his report to the Central Committee, Dr. Raiser mentioned that the Central Committee is meeting in Germany for the fourth time. He then referred to the dramatic changes in Europe and in the world since the most recent meeting in Hanover in 1988. What were signs of hope in 1988 have become a dynamic new reality which poses fresh and bewildering challenges to the churches.

He then referred to some developments in the life of the WCC specifically on the ecclesial identity of ecumenical bodies like the WCC in the wider context of the question of what it means to be church today. He drew attention to some major developments among member churches and partner ecumenical bodies and their

significance for the WCC: the Special Commission on Orthodox Participation in the WCC, the declaration on "Basic Principles of the Attitude of the Russian Orthodox Church towards other Christian Confessions", the declaration "Dominus Iesus" as well as to discussions with many WCC partner organisations on the national and regional levels about the ecclesial identity of conciliar bodies. All these developments reinforce the proposal by the Programme Committee to consider *Being Church* as an overarching issue for the period ahead.

### 2.5 Discussion

The following questions were raised and points made:

- Is the overload of staff with work related to the limited number of staff or due to the new structure? Dr. Raiser answered that it is essentially because the WCC had to reduce its staff by 100 members and still tries to maintain the rhythm of activities.
- Is the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance a forerunner of the proposed Forum? Dr. Raiser replied that it is not perceived as such, but it could be a test case to explore whether the WCC can handle the new working style.
- Appreciation was expressed about the section in the General Secretary's report on Being Church in Conciliar Fellowship and the new emphasis on ecclesial identity. It was noted that there is a reassessment of denominational self-understanding in Protestant traditions.
- It was pointed out that people expect the WCC to take a clear position on the declaration "Dominus Iesus". Dr. Raiser answered that the WCC reaffirms the position taken by Cardinal Kaspar and his colleagues in the Pontifical Council. There is the beginning of an internal debate in the Vatican on the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

## 3. REPORT OF THE MODERATOR

His Holiness Aram I gave an overview of his report to the Central Committee. The emphasis of his report is on overcoming violence. He noted that the Christian response to violence has always been ambiguous and ambivalent. Appropriate hermeneutical and contextual approaches are needed to understand violence both in its proper setting and in a holistic perspective.

He pointed out that in the WCC the question of violence has been raised in different contexts and in relation to different ecumenical issues. Coming from different contexts and backgrounds, the churches have articulated different perspectives on violence-non-violence. The Bible has been used both to justify violence and to advocate non-violence. The Council's debate on violence had taken place in the context of racism, and more specifically with apartheid. Two models of responding to violence have emerged in the ecumenical debate: revolutionary conflict and non-violent resistance.

Community-building is the key to overcoming violence. Education in the churches and in civil society is of crucial importance. Fundamental to violence prevention is the task of building a culture of peace.

The Moderator pointed out that the most critical part of his report is "violence as a 'last resort'". The use of violence for the cause of justice has been at the centre of the ecumenical discussion on violence and non-violence, but the churches have not been able to reach a common understanding on this matter.

**Discussion**

- Gratitude was expressed to the Moderator that his report concentrates on violence – non-violence. It was noted that the churches cannot justify violence, but they have to share the burden of guilt. It was asked what the churches could contribute to solve violence by non-violence.
- Where do the churches start with measures to educate people in both the churches and in civil society?
- Referring to the non-violent struggle of Mahatma Gandhi, it was noted that violence is a concern not only for Christians but also for people of other religions.
- Violence as a last resource is not acceptable to many Christians.
- Violence is a burning issue in Latin America. Most of the people do not go to the roots of violence, and structural violence is most difficult to detect.
- How can we build a model community which does not allow violence against women and children?
- Satisfaction was expressed that the issues of "violence as a last resort" was raised, because churches are divided on this issue. Referring to the resignation of the President in the Philippines, it was noted that as long as the roots of social and economic violence were not destroyed, exchanging one leader for another would not ameliorate the situation.

## 4. PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FINANCE

The Moderator of the Finance Committee, Bishop Wolfgang Huber, gave a brief overview of the financial situation of the Council since the meeting of the Executive Committee in September 2000.

Bishop Huber welcomed three new staff members: the Income Monitoring and Development Manager, Mr Michiel Hardon,; the Income Development Officer for the USA, Ms Jane Richardson; and the Finance Manager, Ms Elaine Dykes. In connection with income development, he mentioned that the membership contributions campaign had already shown some results.

**The financial statements for 1999** had been finalized and audited since the last Executive Committee meeting. A financial surplus had been reported, principally because of exceptional investment income.

Unfortunately, **first estimated, draft results for the year 2000** indicated a likely deficit, stemming from losses in investments, with a resultant decrease in operating income. A deficit would need to be covered by a transfer from the General Reserve.

**The draft budget for the year 2001** also projected a deficit. Bishop Huber indicated that the Finance Sub-Committee would have to reappraise this draft budget, with a view to reducing the proposed deficit. The question of how income might be increased to re-establish the financial stability of the Council would have to be raised.

He reported that the WCC had asked **Pension Fund** consultants KPMG to undertake a study on the feasibility of a move from the current defined benefits scheme to a defined contributions scheme.

He informed the Executive Committee that the Finance Sub-Committee would also address:

- Financial Perspectives for the years 2002-2004
- The Compensation and Remuneration Study
- Activity-Based Costing
- Knowledge Management Project

**Discussion**

Several questions were raised regarding investment strategy in relation to the reported loss on current asset investments. It was explained that the reported loss was an unrealised investment loss, derived from the difference in the market value of certain investments at the end of 2000 compared with their valuation at the end of 1999.

Concerning the wisdom of a proposing a budget projecting a deficit in 2001, Bishop Huber responded that careful attention would have to be given to the General Reserve, although it was not the only reserve of the WCC.

Although expected to be highly effective in the medium term, it was pointed out that the new Income Monitoring and Development initiatives would not be likely to show immediate results. The WCC could therefore expect to face two or three difficult years.

With regard to ongoing fund-raising efforts, it was noted that because some church-related funding agencies are unlikely to increase contributions considerably, new sources of income would have to be sought.

## 5. PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Rev. Dr. K.M. George reported on the work of the Programme Committee, pointing out that for the first time it had met as a full committee immediately before a meeting of the Central Committee. Reports had been received from all Commissions, Advisory Groups and Boards that the Central Committee had set up at its last meeting. Members of the Committee were able to meet with all staff team co-ordinators.

The Programme Committee will submit an interim report to the Central Committee. It will deal with three topics:

- Activities reviewed by the Committee in the last years;
- Commenting and commending recommendations;
- Looking ahead.

## 6. SPECIAL COMMISSION ON ORTHODOX PARTICIPATION IN THE WCC

Metropolitan Chrysostomos and Bishop Koppe, co-moderators of the Special Commission gave a brief report on the second plenary meeting of the Special Commission which took place in Cairo, Egypt in October 2000.

The main task of the plenary meeting of the Special Commission was to receive the reports of the Sub-Committees and to prepare an interim report for the Central Committee. It was noted that the possibility of equal participation of Orthodox and other WCC member churches contributed to a good spirit in the Commission.

The Special Commission focussed on five areas of concern:

- Issues related to membership
- A review of decision-making processes
- Worship/common prayer
- Ecclesiological issues
- Methodology in approaching social and ethical issues
- The future shape of the Council

**Discussion**

Some of the points made are as follows:

The Special Commission is committed to work for changes in WCC structures and working style that would promote the full participation of all its members. There was consensus on the five areas of concentration of the work of the Special Commission. Issues which at first appeared to be Orthodox concerns proved to be concerns of other WCC member churches as well.

Although the group viewed its work with optimism, many controversial questions will continue to arise. The favourable spirit of the Cairo meeting should not imply that the crisis has been overcome. Different trends in the WCC must be reconciled with each other.

The road may not be easy, but WCC churches have affirmed that they want to move forward together. The Commission members would welcome any guidance the Central Committee might provide.

The Executive Committee expressed its hope that the Special Commission would succeed in its task.

## 7. CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The General Secretary introduced the draft agenda. He explained that in addition to the Programme Committee, Finance Committee and Public Issues Committee, there would be three Policy Reference Committees.

## 8. PUBLIC ISSUES

Rev. Dwain Epps presented a Supplementary Report on Public Issues and a report on "The Use of Armed Force in Support of Humanitarian Purposes – An Ecumenical Ethical Approach". He highlighted the situations in the Middle East and the Sudan as follows:

### 8.1 The Situation in the Middle East

Mr. Epps noted that since the Preliminary Report on Public Issues was prepared, the conflict between the Palestinians and Israel had further intensified. At the beginning of January 2001 a small consultation with experts on the region was convened in Geneva by CCIA to analyse the current situation and assess prospects for peace. The disproportionately violent reaction of Israel to the present *Intifadah* was seen as being mainly responsible for the escalation of violence in the region.

During Advent 2000, the General Secretary sent a pastoral letter on behalf of the WCC Officers to the churches and Christian communities in Jerusalem, assuring them of WCC's constant prayers. He referred to his Christmas message in which he "recalled the centuries-old unwritten rule that at Christmas a cease-fire be observed in all situations of military conflict. In both of these contexts I had particularly in mind our sisters and brothers caught up in the terrible new spiral of violence in Israel and Palestine.

"Clearly a cease-fire is not enough. True peace is our shared goal, a peace built on the foundations of justice, so together with you we long for justice for the Palestinian people. Just peace and an end to the vicious cycle of violence demands a fundamental conversion of the human spirit, a recognition of the God-

given dignity and the rights of the other, a change of heart. It was surely this that the Prophet had in mind when he foretold the coming of the Prince of Peace."

**Discussion**

It was pointed out that the Middle East conflict should not be reduced to the problem regarding Jerusalem. There is also the issue of the right of refugees to return to their home country.

Reference was made to the initiative of the World Conference on Religion and Peace to have a group of 4 Christian, 4 Moslem and 4 Jewish leaders meet with the leadership of religious communities.

The question was raised whether the WCC has considered asking member churches to urge their respective governments to call for a peaceful solution of the conflict in the Middle East.

The Executive Committee *recommended* that the Central Committee adopt a minute on the current situation in the Middle East, recalling relevant WCC policy and giving direction for further action and policy developments. The background information provided in the Supplementary Report on Public Issues should be commended to the churches for their consideration, appropriate action and follow-up.

**8.2 The Situation in the Sudan**

Mr. Epps reported that the conflict in Sudan has been on the ecumenical agenda for over three decades. From 1971 the WCC, in co-operation with the AACC, engaged actively in a mediation effort with the South Sudan Liberation Movement and the Government of Sudan that led to the 1972 Addis Ababa peace agreement. Though this agreement brought a cessation of hostilities and a substantial reform of government of a united Sudan, it eventually collapsed, giving rise to a new civil war.

Oil production has contributed to an escalation of the conflict in recent years and hardened the determination of the Government of Sudan to pursue a military solution to the conflict. The churches in Sudan, together with ecumenical partners abroad, have called for a just sharing of oil resources and have demanded that the

oil revenues be spent on improving the situation of the people and not on promotion of the war effort through the purchase of more sophisticated arms.

In its war effort the Government of Sudan has used air power ever since the war began in Southern Sudan. In recent times, however, aerial bombardment has targeted civilians and has further increased the suffering of the people already caught in the midst of this seemingly endless conflict.

Mr. Epps also referred to the Sudan Ecumenical Forum which was created in 1994 to bring together the churches in Sudan in the Sudan Council of Churches (based in Khartoum) and the New Sudan Council of Churches (Southern Sudan, based in Nairobi) with the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and church-related agency partners from the North. Its purpose is to promote coherent ecumenical advocacy for peace and justice in the Sudan. The most recent meeting of the Forum was in early December 2000. It decided to focus its attention on issues related to bombings and the impact of oil and other mineral resource exploration and exploitation in the South on the pursuit of peace.

The Executive Committee *recommended* that the Central Committee adopt a statement on the situation in the Sudan along the lines of the background information provided in the Supplementary Report on Public Issues.

### 8.3 The Situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Mr. Epps reported that the WCC has been receiving regular reports about the situation in the Eastern part of Congo.

The Executive Committee asked the General Secretary to write to the churches in the Democratic Republic of Congo assuring them of the prayers of the WCC and its member churches for them and the people of the Congo at this critical moment in the life of their country.

### 8.4 The Situation in Nigeria

Mr. Epps reported that the situation of the Ogoni people, and particularly their conflict with Shell Petroleum Development Corporation, has been kept under close review. Church leaders in Nigeria are presently involved in efforts to mediate this dispute. The overall situation in Nigeria improved significantly with the coming into power of a new government but has again deteriorated in recent

months. Unrest leading to open confrontation between Christians and Muslims occurred in the North. These were followed by intensive ethnic clashes. The General Secretary paid an extensive visit to Nigeria in October 2000, travelling throughout the country from the North to the southern Delta region. He met with and gave encouragement to a wide range of church and religious leaders, and consulted with regional and national political figures. Particular attention was paid to religious disputes and the concern of Christians about the introduction of Muslim Shariah law that threatened to violate the secular constitution of the country and its guarantees of religious liberty.

Dr. Raiser pointed out that the situation is very complex. The people of the River State and the Ogoni population have an elected representation. Thanks to Bishop Stephen there had been contact between the Shell Petroleum Development Corporation and the Ogoni population. Shell will not return to the Ogoni area unless there is an agreement with the population. There is a proposal to establish a foundation with some of the funds from the Shell Corporation which could bring assistance to the Ogoni community.

### 8.5 Nuclear Disarmament, NATO Policy, and the Churches

Mr. Epps presented background information on the proposed statement on Nuclear Disarmament, NATO Policy and the Churches. He urged that the voice of the churches be heard on this question at a decisive moment. The Staff Leadership Group had proposed that, given the heavy schedule of the Central Committee, and since this statement reiterated earlier policy, it be adopted by the Executive Committee and reported to the Central Committee. The following statement was then **adopted.**

The Executive Committee, meeting in Berlin, 26-27 January 2001,

***Reiterates*** its deep and long-standing concern at the continued risk to Creation posed by the existence of nuclear weapons;

***Welcomes*** the successful outcome of the Sixth Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in May 2000;

***Welcomes*** the Final Document of the Review Conference, which established a new global agenda for nuclear disarmament;

***Expresses*** its satisfaction at the overwhelming support received by the "New Agenda" resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its 55th Session (Millennium Assembly, 2000), which reaffirmed states' commitment to the pursuit of this disarmament agenda;

***Notes*** the significance of continuing deliberations within and among the member states of NATO on NATO nuclear policy and the future of nuclear disarmament;

***Stresses*** the vital importance of ensuring that the policies of NATO members and NATO itself conform to the obligations undertaken by states in the Non-Proliferation Treaty and are consistent with pursuit of the global nuclear disarmament agenda, and

in the light of the recommendations made at the international gathering of church representatives in Brussels in October 2000,

***Calls upon*** the member states of NATO and NATO itself to ensure that their nuclear weapons policies conform to the obligations undertaken by states in the Non-Proliferation Treaty and are consistent with pursuit of the global nuclear disarmament agenda, and in particular:

- to affirm NATO's support for the rapid global elimination of nuclear weapons and to commit the Alliance to take programmatic action to advance this goal;
- to commit NATO to reducing the alert status of nuclear weapons possessed by NATO members, and to pursuing effective arrangements for the rapid de-alerting of all nuclear weapons possessed by all states; and
- to renounce the first-use of nuclear weapons by any NATO member under any circumstances, and to commit NATO to the pursuit of equivalent commitments from other states possessing nuclear weapons;

***Encourages*** the member states of NATO and NATO itself to provide greater transparency and public access to NATO's decision-making processes on nuclear weapons issues;

***Asks the WCC***, in consultation with the Conference of European Churches, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and the Canadian Council of Churches, to organise a delegation of church leaders to meet with government ministers and officials in key non-nuclear NATO states to encourage those states to support these policies;

***Asks the WCC further*** to organise comparable processes on the role of nuclear arms and the ways toward nuclear disarmament in other regions of the world, like North East Asia or the Middle East, and

***Calls*** upon member churches in the context of the Decade to Overcome Violence to renew their witness for peace and disarmament through education, public awareness building and advocacy to overcome the continuing threat of nuclear weapons.

**Discussion**

In the discussion the following comments were made:

- During the last 10 years nuclear weapons have not received as much public attention as depleted weapons containing uranium.

- In Europe and North America the emphasis is on NATO policies. In Asia the topic is the missile defence system. If the missile defence system is strengthened, China would intervene and North-East Asia could become another region of tension. In the context of the Decade to Overcome Violence a thorough study of nuclear programmes in different regions of the world was proposed.

**8.6 Resolution on Uprooted People**

Mr. Epps presented a draft resolution on uprooted people, proposed in the same way for action by the Executive Committee and to be reported to the Central Committee. The following was **adopted:**

The Executive Committee, meeting in Berlin, 26-27 January 2001,

*Recalling and reaffirming* the 1995 Statement of the Central Committee, *A Moment to Choose: Risking to Be with Uprooted People;*

*Recognising* the growing complexity and severity of the situation confronted by uprooted people and by the churches seeking to accompany them;

*Mindful* of the importance of international legal standards for the protection and assistance for all uprooted people in need;

*Aware* of the serious and growing unmet protection needs for refugees, internally displaced people and migrants;

*Conscious* of the growing racist and xenophobic climate in many countries of the world, and

*Commending* the actions of churches in many countries in solidarity with victims of acts of aggression against foreigners and their efforts to create a climate of hospitality for uprooted people;

*Reaffirms* ministry to uprooted people as a central biblical mandate for the churches;

*Renews its call* upon the churches in all regions to offer support, solidarity and accompaniment to those who have been forced to leave their communities, and to strengthen their own churches' and ecumenical ministries with uprooted people;

*Welcomes and reaffirms* the Executive Committee's statement of September 2000 on the 50th Anniversary of UNHCR supporting its central mandate of protection;

*Urges* church and church-related agencies to review and increase their financial support for ecumenical work with uprooted people, especially in the most affected regions;

*Encourages the churches* to strengthen or to undertake advocacy with their own governments, with relevant regional inter-governmental bodies and with international bodies on behalf of refugees, migrants and internally displaced people, particularly with regard to:

- provision of adequate financial and political support to UNHCR and UNRWA;
- the Global Consultations on Refugee Protection organized by UNHCR, reaffirming the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees and an interpretation of the Convention which includes recognition of non-state actors as agents of persecution, gender-based persecution as grounds for asylum, strictly limited policies of exclusion, and the right of refugees to family reunification;

- international discussions on the protection and assistance of internally displaced people, urging the Inter-agency Standing Committee to develop effective co-ordinating mechanisms, and supporting the UN's Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement;
- the 1990 International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families, urging their governments to sign and ratify this convention as soon as possible and to use it to raise awareness about the particular needs of migrants in their communities;
- the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, advocating with their governments and in the UN preparatory process that the Conference address the particular abuses of migrants.

**8.7 Membership of an Ad hoc Public Issues Committee**

The following names were proposed and accepted by the Executive Committee:

Very Rev. Dr. Georges Tsetsis, Moderator
Bishop Jabez Bryce
Ms. Carmencita Karagdag
Rev. Dr. Maake Jonathan Masango
Bishop Federico J. Pagura
Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste

**8.8 Report of Public Issues Committee**

Father Tsetsis presented the report as follows:

The Executive Committee, at its meeting immediately prior to the Central Committee, considered the "Preliminary Report on Public Issues: Follow-Up Given to Actions Taken by the Central Committee, Geneva, 1999" and the "Supplementary Report on Public Issues" and commended them to the Central Committee for information. The Executive Committee *recommended* that the Central Committee take the following action on public issues:

- *Adopt the Statement "Considerations and Criteria related to the Use of Armed Force in Support of Humanitarian Purposes"* (contained in the document entitled "The Use of Armed Force in Support of Humanitarian

Purposes: an Ecumenical Ethical Approach" pp. 12ff) *and commend the introductory background information* (pp. 1-11) *to the churches for study and action.*

- *Adopt a brief minute on the current situation on the Middle East, recalling relevant WCC policy and giving direction for further action and policy development, and commend the background information provided in the "Supplementary Report on Public Issues" to the churches.*

- *Adopt a statement on "The Situation in the Sudan" along the lines of the background information provided in the "Supplementary Report on Public Issues".*

- *Adopt a Minute on Climate Change, reaffirming WCC policy and recommending further action in the light of the failure of governments that met in November 2000 in The Hague to agree on the implementation of the Kyoto Protocols.*

The Executive Committee *recommended* that the first three of these issues be referred to the Public Issues Committee for further discussion, refinement or elaboration for presentation to the Central Committee for action. It also *recommended* that the proposed Minute on Climate Change be referred to Policy Reference Committee II for elaboration and presentation to the Central Committee for action.

The Executive Committee *adopted* two further statements that it forwards to the Central Committee for its information and appropriate follow-up by the churches:

- Statement on Nuclear Disarmament, NATO Policy, and the Churches
- Resolution on Uprooted People.

The Executive Committee has also asked the General Secretary to write to the churches in the Democratic Republic of Congo assuring them of the prayers of the WCC and its member churches for them and the people of the Congo at this critical moment in the life of their country.

## 9. ACTION BY CHURCHES TOGETHER (ACT)

Mr. Thor-Arne Prois highlighted recent developments in the governance structure (Appendix III). He also introduced a chart on Appeals Overview (Appendix IV).

The ACT Mission Statement and By-Laws and the ACT Statutes were presented. Both documents were referred to the Programme Sub-Committee for discussion and proposed recommendations (see pp. 29f.).

The Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky speaking as a member of both the Executive Committee and of ACT offered the following statement of appreciation of ACT:

"As the Actions by Churches Together governance and management structure undergoes change with the agreement of the parent bodies, the LWF and the WCC, the WCC Executive Committee affirms and endorses the work of ACT.

ACT is an effective instrument of the churches in fulfilling the diaconal ministry to which churches and Christians are called by the Gospel. ACT is not 'outside' the life of the churches and their agencies, it is not 'outside' the ecumenical structures and their agencies. ACT is an expression of the diaconal commitment of the churches and of the ecumenical diaconal commitment.

The Executive Committee commends the work of the ACT Co-ordinating Office, its head Mr. Thor-Arne Prois and his staff colleagues in Geneva and in the field. Not only have the emergency responses of ACT increased in size, but the ecumenical relationships and partnerships are being strengthened. We note especially the regional consultations called by the ACT Co-ordinator during the past months and strongly endorse continuing processes of consultation.

It gives us great satisfaction that the ACT Alliance, created in 1995, has given so many signs of maturity and so much evidence of dynamism in diaconal ministry."

The Executive Committee expressed its gratitude for this statement of appreciation and referred it to Policy Reference Committee II.

## 10. ECUMENICAL NEWS INTERNATIONAL

On behalf of Bishop Kässmann, Ms. Kristine Greenaway introduced the paper on "Evaluation of Ecumenical News International for the World Council of Churches, November 2000".

### 10.1 Report on the Evaluation of ENI

The evaluators had agreed that ENI more than meets its Statement of Purpose and Editorial Guidelines. The stories reflect a wide range of ecumenism in a practical, usable and media-friendly fashion. It has become a quality and professional expression of the WCC and the ecumenical family, its strengths and weaknesses. The quantity, quality and writing is impressive, despite certain gaps which are not filled due to financial constraints. Several evaluators were emphatic in their praise of ENI which has such slim financial support and small staff.

While some evaluators did not comment on, or did not know, the relationship between ENI and the Communication Cluster, those who did saw it as one of the key tools for the Communication Cluster, even though the two are independent of each other. But overlap with WCC Media Relations can be a problem. Some co-ordination may be required although this is a sensitive area for both ENI and WCC Media Relations.

All evaluators and the staff who addressed the question feel that WCC and the ecumenical movement in general would suffer if ENI was reduced or terminated for financial reasons. "It is absolutely essential that it grow and thrive", an Anglican editor noted.

ENI is an integral part – albeit independent – of the WCC communications strategy, and this strategy could not be implemented without ENI which has become since 1994 "an indispensable source of news and information around the world. It is difficult to overstate ENI's success in this respect". This quote from the LWF report affirms what the evaluators have found – that ENI has more than fulfilled the dreams and hopes of its founders.
The ENI Business Development Plan prepared by the ENI Board and submitted to the Advisory Board of ENI is designed to provide a stable long-term environment for the development of ENI and to increase resources and support for ENI. It hopes to

- reinforce ENI as the leading provider of ecumenical news;

- increase the number of paid subscribers;
- widen the circle of sponsoring organisations;
- extend sources of funding available;
- develop additional products and services.

The report on the evaluation of ENI was forwarded to the Programme Sub-Committee.

**10.2 Appointment of WCC Representatives to ENI Governing Bodies**

It was reported that the four sponsoring organisations – World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, World Alliance of Reformed Churches and Conference of European Churches – have approved plans for establishing ENI as an independent association under Swiss law. The founding meeting of the new association will be held in Geneva in May 2001.

The new governing structure of ENI will have an Executive Committee with one representative per sponsoring organisation and a General Assembly with one representative per sponsoring organisation. The Executive Committee will meet twice annually and the General Assembly will meet once per year.

The Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee *recommended* and the Executive Committee *agreed*

*to appoint* the Very Rev. Dr. *Georges Tsetsis as representative of the WCC on the ENI General Assembly and Ms. Suecia Mendez as representative of the WCC on the ENI Executive Committee.*

**10.3 Request for Input to Development of Editorial Review Process for ENI**

Members of the WCC Executive Committee are requested to identify questions which they would recommend to be addressed during an editorial review process.

The issue was referred to the Programme Sub-Committee for further discussion.

## 11. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### 11.1 Applications from Churches

Mr. Huibert van Beek reported that of the eight applications for membership which the Executive Committee agreed to consider for submission to the Central Committee, four had been approved at the meeting in September 2000.

One remaining application will be submitted to a future meeting of the Executive Committee, possibly in September 2001. It concerns the *Eternal Sacred Order of the Cherubim and Seraphim* (Nigeria).

The matter was referred to the Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee.

At a later session Mrs. Justice Adinyira presented the report of this Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee recommended that:

- *the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana be received into full membership of the WCC;*

- *the Africa Inland Church – Sudan be received into full membership of the WCC;*

- *the Association of Baptist Churches in Rwanda be received into full membership of the WCC;*

- *the Mara Evangelical Church be received into associate membership with the WCC.*

The Executive Committee **agreed** to forward these recommendations to the Central Committee for action.

### 11.2 Group on Membership Study

Mr. van Beek presented papers on the proposed composition and proposed terms of reference for the Group on Membership Study.

*Composition of Group*

Regarding the composition of the group it was proposed to follow the model of the Special Commission, i.e. equal numbers of Orthodox and non-Orthodox members, with the understanding that the group can call on the assistance of consultants and experts as required.

*Terms of Reference of the Group*

The group is accountable to the Executive Committee.

The mandate of the group extends from its formation in January 2001 until the meeting of the Central Committee in 2002.

The group will work closely with the Special Commission on Orthodox Participation in the WCC. Specifically, the group will

- take fully into consideration the issues, concerns, questions etc. identified by the Special Commission in relation to membership and representation;
- share reports on the progress of its work with the Special Commission on the occasion of meetings of the Plenary, Steering Committee etc.;
- share the draft of its final report with the Plenary of the Special Commission in May 2002.

*Task of the Group*

The task of the group is:

- to analyse and assess the reasons for the present study on membership;
- to do a thorough review of the rationale for the present model of the WCC membership;
- to review previous studies on questions of membership and the criteria for membership;
- to review the procedures for admission of new member churches;
- to study the ecclesial and ecclesiological aspects of membership;
- to study the issue of representation in the governing bodies of the WCC in relation to membership, taking into account proposals about groupings of member churches in "families" or otherwise;
- to examine possible new forms of membership not included in the present Constitution and Rules of the WCC, the legal and constitutional aspects of

membership of an association such as the WCC and possible other forms of association (under Swiss law);

- to collect the views on WCC membership of a selection of churches which are not members of the WCC, e.g. the Roman Catholic Church, some Evangelical and Pentecostal churches etc.;
- on the basis of the above, to prepare a comprehensive report for the Central Committee meeting in 2002 with proposals for action.

The papers were referred to the Sub-Committee on Staffing and Nominations for further consideration and recommendations.

**11.3 Recommendations by the Sub-Committee on Staffing and Nominations**

The Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee **agreed** that the following be members of the Group on Membership Study:

**Orthodox Members**
Very Rev. Dr. Georges Tsetsis, Ecumenical Patriarchate
Rev. Michael Gundiaev, Russian Orthodox Church
Rev. Nareg Alemezian, Armenian Apostolic Church, Cilicia
Ms. Anne Glynn-Mackoul, Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East

**Non-Orthodox Members**
Prof. John Briggs, Baptist Union of Great Britain
Rev. Dr. Bruce Robbins, United Methodist Church
Rev. André Karamaga, Presbyterian Church of Rwanda
Ms. Donnalie Edwards-Cabey, Church in the Province of the West Indies

The Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee **agreed** to approve the Terms of Reference for the Group on Membership, noting that it may be necessary for the group to continue the study beyond the next meeting of the Central Committee in September 2002.

## 12. FORUM OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND ECUMENICAL ORGANISATIONS

Mr. van Beek informed the Executive Committee about the meeting of the Continuation Committee in December 2000 in London, which assessed the results of the consultation held at Fuller Theological Seminary in September 2000 and considered possible next steps in the process towards the realisation of the Forum proposal.

The Continuation Committee also discussed questions of funding, names of persons to be asked to help with the planning, details of the planning process, and dates and venue of the meeting in 2001. Regarding the latter, the Committee considered several suggestions and concluded in favour of holding the meeting again at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Mr. van Beek reported that Policy Reference Committee I will review the work of the Continuation Committee.

## 13. WCC GOVERNING STRUCTURE

The General Secretary introduced a paper on "Considerations about WCC Governing Structure". He pointed out that although the document will be submitted to the Central Committee for action, the Officers had recommended that it be shared with the Executive Committee.

He gave some background information as follows:

In response to observations during the evaluation of the Harare Assembly, the Central Committee in 1999 requested the General Secretary "to initiate a process of reflection on the nature and purpose of the Assembly against the background of the considerations arising from the CUV process and the Harare Assembly and to bring a report to the Central Committee in 2001" (cf. Minutes of the Central Committee, August/September 1999, p. 27). The Central Committee also suggested that "this process of reflection involve a wide constituency, including Assembly delegates not serving on the Central Committee". Pressures of work so far have not allowed the process of reflection to be initiated as widely as suggested. Nevertheless, a reflection paper emerging from discussions in the Staff

Leadership Group was shared with the Officers at their meeting of 30 November-1 December 2000.

At the same Officers' meeting, a further discussion paper was presented raising a number of issues regarding the shape and organisation of Central Committee meetings. Questions had arisen particularly in preparation for the Potsdam Central Committee. The Staff Leadership Group in its discussions had realised that, in spite of the many contextual and institutional changes introduced in the course of the years, the way Central Committee meetings are designed and organised had not been reviewed at all for the last decades.

In responding to the issues raised in both discussion papers, the Officers suggested that a process of discussion be initiated about the governing structure of the WCC. The Officers suggested that this reflection should take the CUV document as a starting point and that the discussion papers be revised accordingly to form the basis of an initial exchange in one of the Reference Committees of the Central Committee.

The fundamental affirmation of the CUV document is found in paragraph 3.4.2: "The essence of the Council is the relationship of the churches to one another. The Council *is* the fellowship of churches on the way towards full *koinonia...*"

Challenges have increasingly arisen regarding the nature and functioning of the Assembly. They have come from three different sources:

- From the *Christian World Communions*, in particular the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. Implicitly, however, the same challenge has come from the constituency of Regional Ecumenical Organisations.

- The second challenge has come through the *CUV process* and its emphasis on the WCC as a "fellowship of churches" in distinction from the organisational or institutional character of the WCC. The Assembly should be considered as the most public and most comprehensive way for the WCC to manifest its true identity as a fellowship of churches.

- The third challenge is now coming from the *Special Commission on Orthodox Participation in the WCC.* This challenge, which concerns all levels of WCC governance, is reinforcing questions which have been raised earlier,

particularly regarding the procedures for decision-making, placing an emphasis on consensual agreement over against the parliamentary methodology of majority vote. The Special Commission also reinforces the need already acknowledged by the Executive Committee to continue the reflection about membership and to seek clarification of the criteria for membership going beyond the purely formal points addressed in the present Rules. Further, the Special Commission raises questions about the representation of churches, urging that consideration be given to the recognition of groupings of churches, following either the ecclesial tradition or regional groupings or other criteria.

It would therefore seem that in addition to the nature and purpose of the Assembly also the purpose of the Central Committee meetings should be re-defined. At present, the programme is disbursed and appears to have no centre. A stronger connection should be established between the various elements. In addition, the question must be asked: What are the decisions that really have to be taken by the Central Committee?

**Discussion**

It was pointed out that the paper leads to profound reflections. It was asked whether it would already concern the next Assembly. As it might involve constitutional changes, the major part of the work should be done before the meeting of the Central Committee in 2003. It was noted that there should be a linkage between the discussions in the Special Commission and the process of reflection on the nature and purpose of the Assembly.

## 14. REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Bishop Huber, Moderator of the Finance Committee, gave the report of the Sub-Committee as follows:

### 14.1 Preliminary Results 2000

The preliminary unaudited results were presented. The review of income focused on the loss on current asset investments. It was clarified that there were an estimated CHF 2.6 million unrealised investment losses, deriving from the difference in market valuation of investments between 31.12.1999 and

31.12.2000. These are not realised losses. While the constraints of International Accounting Standards concerning presentation of this information in our financial statements were understood, it was the view of the Finance Sub-Committee that in the future financial management information to the governing committee should clearly segregate unrealised losses or gains from realised dividends and interest income.

Total expenses amounted to CHF 27.6 million, equalling budget almost exactly. There were some variances in individual expense lines, and these were reviewed and explanations accepted. Although staff costs were steady against budget, given their significance the Finance Sub-Committee would appreciate additional information analysing these costs in future presentations.

It was understood that the preliminary results were subject to adjustment, including International Accounting Standards (IAS) 19, which deals with the assessment of potential liability to the Pension Fund.

On this understanding the Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee **agreed**

*to approve that the estimated deficit of CHF 751 000 be covered by a transfer from the General Reserve, bringing the General Reserve from CHF 5.5 million to CHF 4.75 million.*

**14.2 Financial Projections 2002 to 2004**

Projected operating budgets for the years 2002 to 2004 were reviewed. Projections included assumptions concerning inflation and set out proposals to reduce expenses by approximately CHF 900,000 annually from 2002. However, in order to meet the targeted ratio of 66% staff costs to total operating income, the projection identified that required income levels would have to rise from CHF 25 million in 2000 to CHF 34 million in 2004.

New, more focused fund-raising campaigns were planned. However, it was the view of the Sub-Committee that although income levels were expected to rise in the medium term, they could not increase so steeply in such a short time-frame. At this stage, there were no firm predictions foreseen for the expected results of these efforts.

**14.3 Budget 2001**

The Sub-Committee proposed and the Executive Committee **agreed** to present a revised budget to the Central Committee, reducing the expected deficit by CHF 2.5 million from that projected in the original draft budget.

**14.4 Pension Fund Study mandated by Executive Committee**

A study addressing the effects of the introduction of a defined contributions pension scheme had been undertaken and was presented. The advantages of the scheme included stability of an 11% contribution by the employer. Under the new scheme, employees would benefit from an annual 4% compounded interest, plus any other gains resulting from Pension Fund investments. Over the longer term, it is likely that there would be no disadvantage to younger employees or those in mid-career. It would be required to ensure that any risk to older employees was avoided with appropriate provision. A detailed study would be required to ensure that the effect of the change on all employees would be properly assessed.

The Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee **agreed**

*to undertake the second stage of the study with a view to presenting a final proposal to the Executive Committee in September 2001.*

**Discussion**

The General Secretary commented that the financial situation of the WCC was indeed difficult at this time. One Executive Committee member proposed a reduction in the number of meetings of the Executive Committee, the Central Committee and the Advisory Groups in order to help improve the financial situation

It was agreed that the officers together with the Finance Sub-Committee prepare a revised budget for submission to the Finance Committee of the Central Committee.

## 15. REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE

Dr. Marion Best, Moderator of the Programme Sub-Committee, presented the report. After the presentation and discussion of the report, the Executive Committee took the following actions:

### 15.1 Revision of ACT Governing Structure

The Executive Committee **approved** in principle the ACT Mission Statement and By-Laws and the Statutes of ACT International and made the following observations and comments:

The concern raised by the General Secretary of LWF regarding the provision for the revision of Statutes and the dissolution of ACT (Articles 9 and 11 of the Statutes) was recognised as important and should be accommodated by the introduction of appropriate procedures.

The concern also raised by the LWF General Secretary regarding the composition of the Nomination Committee was recognised as valid (By-Laws, Art. 7 and 8). The Nomination Committee should be composed of Emergency Committee members who are not candidates for election, and should include the two Directors of the WCC and LWF as ex officio members.

The authority to make minor amendments to the above documents was delegated to the WCC General Secretary as well as the signing of the final document, including the ACT registration on behalf of the WCC. Since parallel approval by the LWF Council is required, the WCC General Secretary will act in consultation and agreement with the LWF General Secretary and consult, as necessary, with the Officers. These actions will be duly reported to the Executive Committee.

In addition, the Executive Committee **approved:**

- that the principles highlighted in the ACT Mission Statement be affirmed as the core of an ecumenical code of conduct;
- that a regular process of evaluation of the diaconal work done by ACT and its members in response to humanitarian needs be understood as an essential expression of ecumenical accountability;

- that closer co-operation and interaction between WCC and ACT staff be urgently strengthened (in particular as related to regional contexts and relationships).

The Executive Committee commends ACT for the extensive process of regional consultations undertaken during the last several months and strongly encourages the anticipated further development of consultative processes.

**15.2 Discussion of ENI**

The report on the "Evaluation of Ecumenical News International (ENI) for the World Council of Churches (WCC), November 2000" was received for information and comment. Information was shared about links between WCC governing structures and the new ENI governing structures and about ENI staff and WCC management processes which will be put in place in May 2001 when ENI becomes an independent association under Swiss law.

The document "Appointment of WCC Representatives to ENI Governing Bodies" was received for information. The Sub-Committee received information about the nomination of WCC representatives to the new ENI governing bodies, which are to be established at the founding meeting of ENI as an independent organisation under Swiss law in May 2001.

The document "Request for Input to Development of Editorial Review Process for ENI" was received for information and comment. The Sub-Committee offered suggestions for the process of editorial review of ENI to be undertaken subject to the approval of the General Assembly of ENI. It is hoped this will be a self-critical assessment, which will include evaluation by the sponsoring organisations, regional ecumenical organisations and major church news agencies.

**15.3 Discussion of Editorial Resource Production in the Communication Cluster**

The document "Executive Summary – Report on Future Development of the Editorial Role Profile" was received for information. This report serves as a basis for the revised role profiles for the (Senior) Editor and the Senior Web Editor. The Sub-Committee commented on the recommendation in this summary for the further integration of the Visual Arts Unit into the overall planning for production in order to reflect programming themes set by the Central Committee. The Sub-

Committee also recognised the importance of preserving ecumenical memory in the archives of the WCC and heard a report about the recommendations of the archiving task group of the Communication Advisory Committee.

## 16. REPORT OF THE STAFFING AND NOMINATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Ms. Justice Sophia Adinyira, Moderator of the Sub-Committee on Staffing and Nominations presented, in a closed session, the report of the Sub-Committee as follows:

### 16.1 Nominations

*16.1.1 Proposals for Replacements in the Special Commission*

In a letter to the General Secretary, Bishop Federico Pagura has asked to be replaced in the membership of the Special Commission. For a variety of reasons, six appointed members of the Special Commission were not able to attend so far any plenary or sub-committee meeting. They have all been asked whether they would be ready to fulfil their duties or prefer to be replaced. One positive and one negative response were received. The others have not responded.

The following proposals are made after consultation with the Mixed Staff Group on the Special Commission:

**Rev. Dr. Walter Altmann**, Lutheran, former President of CLAI
(for Bishop Federico Pagura, Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, President of the WCC).

**Rev. Canon Naim Atik**, Anglican, Jerusalem
(for Bishop Munib A. Younan, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jerusalem).

**Ms. Najla Qassab**, Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, Lebanon
(for Dr. Georges Sabra, Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, Lebanon).

**Archbishop Walter Makhulu**, former Archbisop of the Church of the Province of Central Africa (for Archbishop N.W.H. Ndungane, Church of the Province of Southern Africa).

**Rev. Dr. Thelma Chambers Young**, Progressive National Baptist Convention, USA (for Bishop Vinton Anderson, African Methodist Episcopal Church).

*16.1.2 New Members in the Faith and Order Plenary Commission*

The Faith and Order Nominations Committee has reviewed the work undertaken by the Faith and Order Secretariat and the replies received and recommended that the following names be forwarded for election to the Faith and Order Plenary Commission:

**Rev. Luna L. Dingayan** (United Church in the Philippines)

**Ven. Archdeacon Samy Fawzy** (Province of Jerusalem and Middle East – Diocese of Egypt)

**Mr. Roman Juriga** (Orthodox Church of Czech Lands and Slovakia)

**Very Rev. John Kevern** (Episcopal Church USA)

**Metropolitan Makarios of Zimbabwe** (Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria)

**Very Rev. Dr. Michel Najim** (Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch)

**Archbishop Nathaniel** (Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church)

**Rev. Dr. Otele Perelini** (Congregational Christian Church in Samoa)

**Rev. Dr. Predag Puzoric** (Orthodox Church of Serbia)

The Faith and Order Nominations Committee recommended that one place each on the Plenary Commission be reserved for the Orthodox Church of Bulgaria and for the Orthodox Church of Georgia, and until such time as they are able to take the places, two representatives of other Orthodox Churches be invited to fill these places.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate nominated **H.G. Bishop Emmanuel of Reghion** (Holy Metropolitanate of Belgium) to hold the seat of the Orthodox Church of

Georgia. Bishop Emmanuel is the Director of the Office of the Ecumenical Patriarchate to the European Community.

The Romanian Orthodox Church nominated **Rev. Prof. Viorel Ionita** to hold the seat of the Orthodox Church in Bulgaria. Father Ionita is the Study Secretary in the Secretariat of the Conference of European Churches.

Upon the recommendation of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, **Rev. Prof. William Henn OFM** is nominated to replace Father Jean-Marie Tillard as a member of the Faith and Order Standing Commission, and **Prof. Dr. Barbara Hallensleben** is nominated to replace Rev. Prof. William Henn as a member of the Faith and Order Plenary Commission.

*16.1.3 Commission of the Churches on International Affairs*

Miss Mona Rishmawi has asked to be released from her responsibilities as a CCIA Commissioner in light of her new responsibilities on the staff of the UN High Commission for Human Rights. It is proposed to replace her with **Mr. Marwan Bishara**, an Israeli Palestinian and a well-known journalist and political scientist. The nomination is formally endorsed by Mr. Bishara's church, the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

The Executive Committee **agreed** to appoint the persons as nominated.

**16.2 Staffing**

The Executive Committee authorised the General Secretary to proceed with the following contract extensions, the legal obligations of the World Council of Churches to be binding only as from the actual signing by both parties of the corresponding contracts or contract extensions.

*16.2.1 Contract Extensions*

All the contract extensions listed below are for three years unless otherwise stated.

Cluster on Issues and Themes

Faith and Order

**Rev. Dr. Alan Falconer** (UK, Church of Scotland), Director, Faith and Order, from 1 February 2002 (will complete 10.0 yrs).

Justice, Peace and Creation

**Rev. Eugenio Poma Anaguya** (Bolivia, Evangelical Methodist Church in Bolivia), Executive Secretary, Indigenous Peoples Issues, from 1 March 2002 (will complete 10.0 yrs).

**Rev. Dr. Martin Robra** (Germany, EKD [United]), Executive Secretary, ECOS, from 1 February 2002 (will complete 10.5 yrs).

Cluster on Relations

Church and Ecumenical Relations

**Mr. Huibert van Beek** (The Netherlands, Swiss Protestant Church Federation), Executive Secretary for Church and Ecumenical Relations, from 1 October 2002 (will complete 27.1 yrs).

**Rev. Hans Ucko** (Sweden, Church of Sweden), Executive Secretary, Christian-Jewish, New Religious Movements, from 1 August 2002 (will complete 16.0 yrs).

International Relations

**Mr. Melaku Kifle** (Ethiopia, Ethiopian Orthodox Church [Oriental]), Co-ordinator, Refugee and Migration Service, from 1 March 2002 for 4 years and 2 months until retirement age (will complete 22.4 yrs).

Regional Relations

**Ms. Marta Palma** (Chile, Pentecostal Mission Church), Executive Secretary, Latin America & Caribbean, from 1 October 2002 (will complete 19.0 yrs).

ACT Co-ordinating Office

**Mr. Thorn Arne Prois** (Norway, Church of Norway), ACT Co-ordinator, from 1 March 2002 for 4 years (in order to conform to the WCC Regulations) (will complete 5.0 yrs).

Ecumenical News International (ENI)

**Mr. Stephen Brown** (UK, United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom), Editor, from 1 March 2002 (will complete 11.0 yrs).

*16.2.2 Information*

It was reported that **Vikarin Kersten Storch** (Germany, EKD, Lutheran) has not accepted the appointment as Executive Secretary for Faith and Order, Cluster on Issues and Themes.

*16.2.3 Confirmation of Contract Extension*

Ecumenical News International (ENI)

**Mr. Edmond Doogue** (Ireland, Church of England [Anglican]), Editor, from 1 January 2001 (will complete 14.0 yrs).

It was reported that the above contract extension agreed by the Executive Committee in September 2000 was confirmed by the ENI Board on 3 November 2000.

*16.2.4 Consultants*

It was reported that the following consultants were appointed by the General Secretary since the last Executive Committee meeting in September 2000.

Cluster on Issues and Themes

Justice, Peace and Creation

**Ms. Pauline Muchina** (Kenya, Church of the Province of Kenya [Anglican]), Consultant for the Preparatory Process towards the United Nations World Conference on Racism, from 5 September 2000 for 1 year 4 months (will complete 1.4 yrs).

Faith and Order

**Ms. Simei Monteiro** (Brazil, Methodist Church in Brazil), Worship Consultant from an agreed date for a period to be determined by the United Methodist Church.

Cluster on Relations

**Ms. Linda Hartke** (USA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Consultant, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, from 1 February 2001 for one year (will complete 1.0 yr).

International Relations

**Rev. Guillermo Kerber Mas** (Uruguayan, Roman Catholic), Consultant on Impunity, Truth and Reconciliation, as from 1 February 2001 for two years (will complete 2.0 yrs).

*16.2.5 Vacancies*

Cluster on Communication

**Senior Editor**
**Senior Web Editor**

Cluster on Relations

ACT

Appeals Officer – Asia Pacific

The Executive Committee authorised the Officers to fill urgent vacancies that must be filled prior to its next meeting.

16.2.6 Officers' Meeting – November 2000

It was reported that the officers made the following decisions at their meeting in November:

Appointments

Cluster on Finance, Service and Administration

Finance

**Ms. Elaine Dykes Jetzer** (UK, Church of Scotland), Finance Manager and Team Co-ordinator for four years from 1 December 2000.

Income Monitoring and Development

**Ms. Jane Richardson** (USA, Reformed Church in America), Income Development Officer (IDO) for four years as from 1 January 2001.

Cluster on Issues and Themes

Education and Ecumenical Formation

**Ms. Tara Tautari** (Aotearoa New Zealand, Methodist Church of New Zealand), Executive Secretary for Education and Ecumenical Formation (with responsibility for Scholarships), for four years from 1 February 2001.

## 17. DATES AND PLACES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

**2001**

| | |
|---|---|
| Executive Committee | 11-14 September, Geneva |

**2002**

| | |
|---|---|
| Executive Committee | 19-22 February, Nyborg Strand, Denmark |
| Executive Committee | 23-24 August, Geneva |
| Central Committee | 26 August – 3 September |

## 18. CLOSING ACTIONS

The Moderator thanked members of the Executive Committee for their participation in the meeting. He also expressed appreciation to the General Secretary and other staff involved in the preparation and conduct of this meeting.

The Moderator adjourned the meeting on Saturday, 27 January 2001 at 15.00 hrs.

APPENDIX I

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Officers: | H.H. Aram I, Catholicos of Cilicia | (Moderator) |
| | Ms. Justice Sophia Adinyira | (Vice-Moderator) |
| | Dr. Marion Best | (Vice-Moderator) |
| | Rev. Dr. Konrad Raiser | (General Secretary) |
| Members: | Rev. Dr. Hilarion Alfeyev | |
| | Ms Donnalie E.C. Edwards-Cabey | |
| | Dean Anders Gadegaard | |
| | Bishop Dr Wolfgang Huber | |
| | Ms. Jana Kalinova | |
| | Ms. Carmencita Karagdag | |
| | H.G. Mar Cyril Aphrem Karim | |
| | Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick | |
| | Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky | |
| | Rev. Septemmy E. Lakawa | |
| | Prof. Dr. Samuel Lee | |
| | Rev. Dr. Maake S.J. Masango | |
| | H.G. Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste | |
| | Ms. Abigail O. Ogunsanya | |
| | Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus | |
| | Very Rev. Dr. Georges Tsetsis | |
| | Rev. Dr. Ilaitia Sevati Tuwere | |
| | Bishop McKinley Young | |
| Ex Officio: | Rev. Dr. K. M. George | |
| | Bishop Dr. Rolf Koppe | |
| Presidents: | Dr. Agnes Abuom | |
| | Rev. Kathryn Bannister | |
| | Bishop Jabez Bryce | |
| | H.E. Metr. Chrysostomos of Ephesus | |
| | Bishop Federico J. Pagura | |
| | Bishop Eberhardt Renz | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Apologies: | Rev. Yadessa Daba<br>Rev. Inamar Correa de Souza<br>Dr. Moon Kyu Kang<br>H.H. Ignatius Zakka I Iwas | |
| Staff: | Ms. Jeanne Becher<br>Mr. Robert Christeler<br>Ms. Kristine Greenaway<br>Ms. Geneviève Jacques<br>Rev. Dr. Sam Kobia<br>Mr Georges Lemopoulos | Part-time<br>Ms. Carol Abel<br>Ms. Elaine Dykes<br>Rev. Dwain Epps<br>Ms. Joan Geuss<br>Mr Costa Mustaklem<br>Mr. Thor-Arne Prois<br>Mr. Huibert van Beek |
| Minute-Writer: | Ms. Irmhild Reichen-Young | |
| Administration: | Ms. Ursula Zierl | |

APPENDIX II

## MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

### Programme Sub-Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr. Marion Best | Moderator |
| Rev. Inamar Correa de Souza | (absent) |
| Ms. Jana Kalinova | |
| H.G. Mar Cyril Aphrem Karim | |
| Rev. Septemmy E. Lakawa | |
| Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus | |
| | |
| Dr. Agnes Abuom | (President) |
| Metr. Chrysostomos of Ephesus | (President) |

### Staffing and Nominations Sub-Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| Ms. Justice Sophia Adinyira | Moderator |
| Rev. Dr. Hilarion Alfeyev | |
| Rev. Yadessa Daba | (absent) |
| Ms. Donnalie E.C. Edwards-Cabey | |
| Dean Anders Gadegaard | |
| Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick | |
| | |
| Rev. Kathryn Bannister | (President) |
| Bishop Eberhardt Renz | (President) |

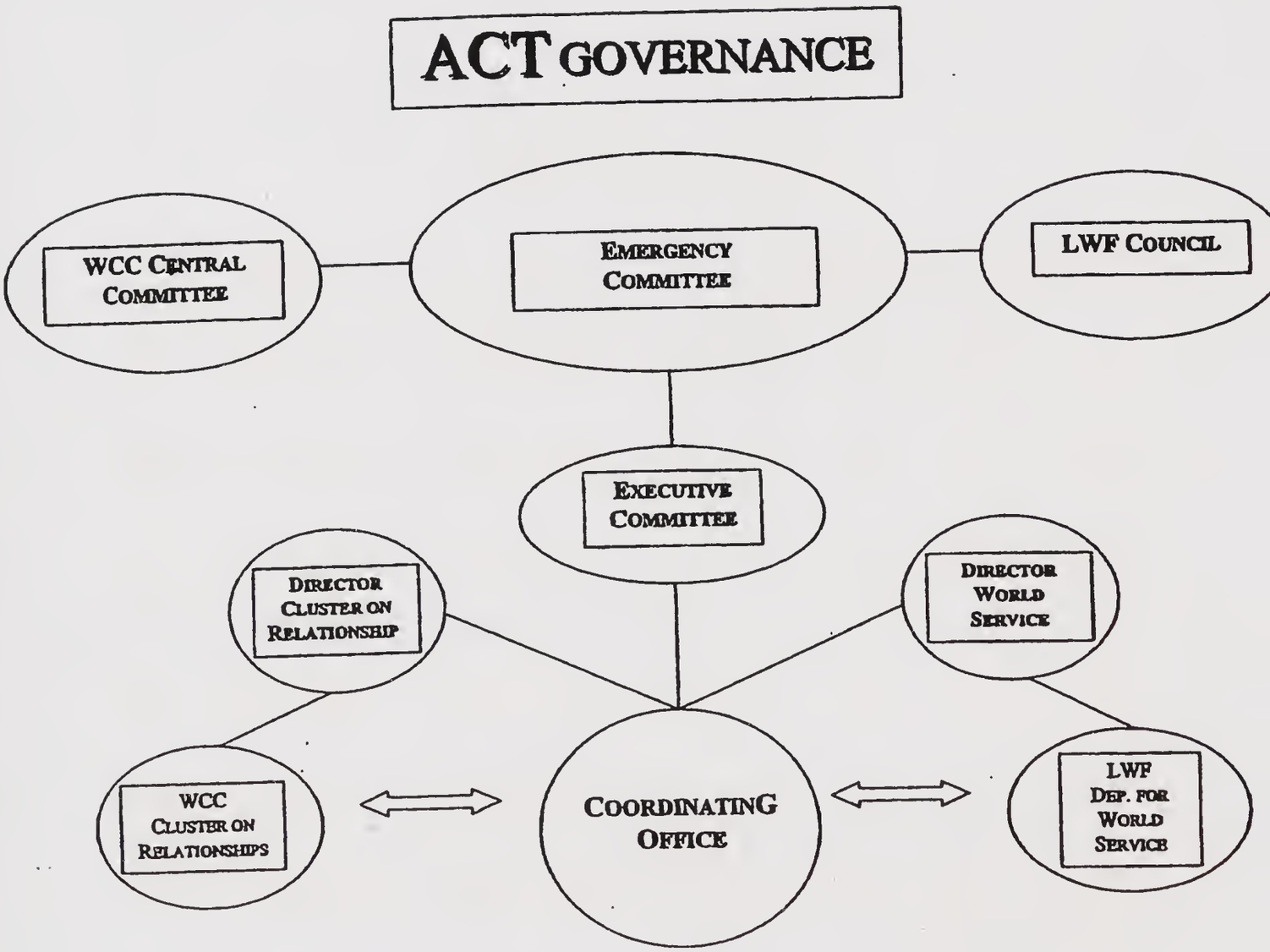
### Finance Sub-Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| Bishop Dr. Wolfgang Huber | Moderator |
| Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky | |
| Prof. Dr. Samuel Lee | |
| Ms. Abigail O. Ogunsanya | |
| Rev. Dr. Ilaiti Sevati Tuwere | |
| Bishop McKinley Young | |

**Ad hoc Public Issues Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Very Rev. Dr. Georges Tsetsis | Moderator |
| Ms. Carmencita Karagdag | |
| Rev. Dr. Maake S.J. Masango | |
| Archbishop Nifon of Targoviste | |
| | |
| Bishop Jabez Bryce | (President) |
| Bishop Federico J. Pagura | (President) |

APPENDIX III



# APPEALS OVERVIEW

(Jan. 1996 - 12 February 2001)

| YEAR | No. of Appeals | | | | Target | Cover | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nat. | Civ. | Glob. | Tot. | Amount in USD | Amount in USD | % of Target |
| 1996 | 14 | 26 | 1 | 41 | 49,959,559 | 29,048,504 | 58% |
| 1997 | 27 | 13 | 2 | 42 | 32,247,086 | 20,103,524 | 62% |
| 1998 | 39 | 21 | 1 | 61 | 78,226,059 | 63,807,023 | 82% |
| 1999 | 29 | 29 | 2 | 60 | 140,192,431 | 92,535,059 | 66% |
| 2000* | 35 | 28 | 2 | 65 | 151,138,721 | 82,548,346 | 55% |
| 2001 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 17 | 42,882,528 | 10,143,733 | 24% |
| Total | 144 | 117 | 8 | 269 | 451,763,856 | 288,042,456 | 64% |

* Ethiopia excluded